Dear Jim, Bombing 16th St. Church 2/20/76 also comment on press. CIA,etc.

After I heard that Wallace's Attorney General is now talking about indictments in this killing of 9/63 it seemed an obvious possibility that he is using it to re-image himself. So, I called Les Payne. In his absence spoke to the national editor about this, the missing page of CD1347 we got under FOIA and some of what by accident I know of Ford's new spook oversighters, Murphey and Cherne. Newsday itself is working on the new oversighters but Les called me back about the church bombing, I read the missing page to him, referred him to the transcript of Miltter and Somersett he'll reread and he'll start asking questions. He sees it and that there was no basis for ever withholding this pages except that it, in combination with the total suppressed by the FBI of that tape or transcript, embarrass the FBI.

On this I'm reminded that this page and the history and the Hoover 11/66 press release make excellent examples to use in court.

Les is a joy to work with. He stays in touch and keeps me up to date as he welcomes suggestions. He'll be down next week. I've stayed away from a located probably Hoover penetrant now in DC so Les can handled him. I don't think I even told you about him. So, Les will be here then and well talk more about more. He's coming up after he talks to the guy, the only one flushed by the first story to now. I have the second but have not had a chnace to read it. The second is supposed to be on the way to you.

Les seems to have what every good investigative reporter needs, the backing of his desk if not on higher level.

I know more than is in the second piece but am bound to confidence on it. I know his source, who stipulated confidentiality. When two people work together it is not a breach to confer and I turned him on to this source. I knew on the way back from Nashville. Thus I know that Les did a beautiful job of masking his source while writing a completely honest story. He is suing an effective way of following it up and making it safe for his source to come into the warm. However, there are some problems with the mean he elected and I've made a few suggestions or cautions because of what I know of that person. It may work. If it does we'll be much better off.

Murphey was a major part of the US policy that resulted in the undermining of the elected Spanish government in 1937. There was a major split engineered by the earlier cold warriors and the Catholic bloc, which was actually kistening to Rome. So, being an early over-thrower, in the first post-Marines era, and a youth of a mere 82, he is a natural for the impartiality required to keep the spooks in line. Cherne's record was in effect pro-Hitler. Because I saw Murphey letters to another operative, a friend of mine who was then an Assistant AG in charge of the Criminal Division, I have knowledge. I tried to talk to the Post (where finally I reached Sussman only) but heard nothing back. I readhed Mo as he was about to go out to cover the stoning of the New Jersey capitol building. At Newsday I was referred to Elfin in the absence of Lindsay, who is abroad, and never have I spoken to anyone more antagonistic about anything - he cast himself in the role os a defender of Ford's acts. Les Whitten is out of town until this afternoon. Pete Kihss did not answer his phone and the national desk at the Times is a sure loser so I didn't try. Finley was out of the office but the national desk in Chicago was interested. The editor put the assistant national editor on. I exppect to hear from someone in their DC office today and I have an early errand to complete as rapidly as possible to get home for it.

Playboy took up much time, to suppertime. I'll be hearing again today. The issue is delayed. They are ravong about the kind of help I gave and how it is appreciated, etc., and claim they have not plagiarized. I said I'd wait and see what appears but that regardless of what has come to be magazine practice some work is uniquely owned inder copyright and I've told them from the first I expect this, warning them it would not be possible not to do this. I think we may have a tentative agreement on this set. I may also find the articles editor flying in over the weekend. I really did do a job for them, I am satisfied they do mean what they say and see the dangers, some of which have been taken care of prompt, like baloney about Marcello, Bit I wont know until the galleys are read. The issue will be late now. Best,

Harold